

Preston Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORTS

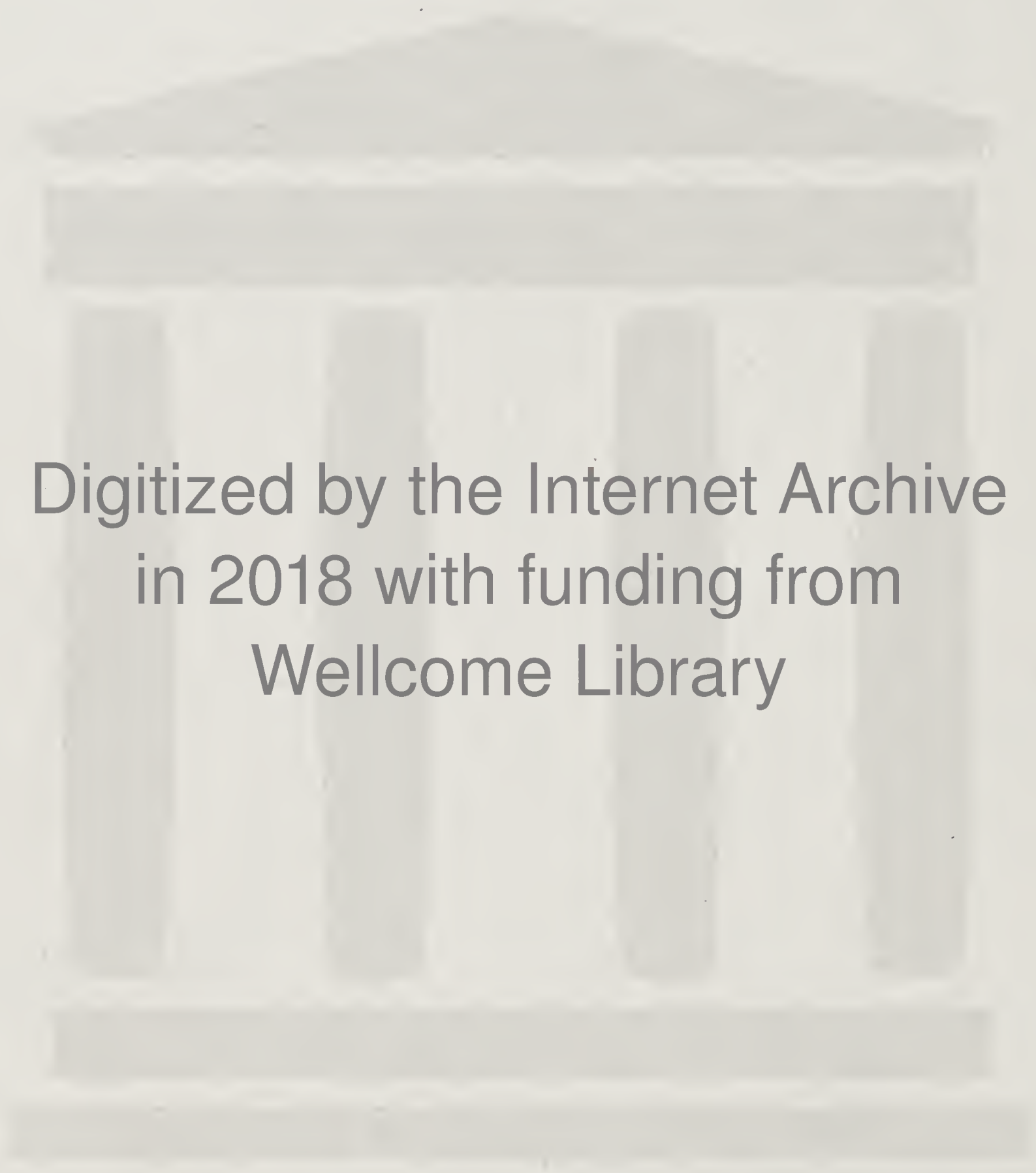
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year 1967



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for the Year 1967

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J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.,

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M.O.H. Adlington U.D.C., M.O.H. Chorley R.D.C., M.O.H. Chorley M.B.,
M.O.H. Fulwood U.D.C., M.O.H. Leyland U.D.C., M.O.H. Longridge U.D.C.
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Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire C.C. Health Division 4

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

N. T. W. POVER, L.M.S.S.A., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.,

Other Public Appointments:

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and Deputy M.O.H. to the Local Authorities mentioned above.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

T. BAXTER, M.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.

District Public Health Inspectors:

I. SHEPHERD, M.A.P.H.I.

B. J. KIRKHAM, M.A.P.H.I.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

To the Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration of the Eighty-eighth Annual Report of the health and sanitary circumstances for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

The estimated population of the Rural District increased by 900 to 49,220. A little over threequarters of this increase is attributable to persons moving into the district from other areas. The remainder of the increase is due to the number of live births exceeding deaths by 209. The number of live births — 840 — is 13 fewer than last year which was the highest recorded. It represents a birth rate of 17.1 per 1,000 population and when this rate is adjusted by the comparability factor in order to permit a realistic comparison with other areas, the rate for the Preston Rural District is increased to 18.5 a figure which is 1.3 above the rate for the whole of England and Wales. The number of illegitimate live births continues to increase. The figures in the body of the Report indicate a 50% increase over the previous year and also show that the rate has doubled over the past five years. The stillbirth rate is the lowest ever recorded. It shows a substantial fall insofar as there were only four stillbirths in the whole of the district as compared with 19 in the previous year. The number of infant deaths at 21 shows an increase of six over the previous year, but 14 of these deaths, as against 10 last year, occurred in infants under one week in age. A better picture is obtained if the stillbirths and deaths under one week of age are grouped together. When this is done, there is an overall improvement on last year — the rate per 1,000 births is reduced from 33.3 in 1966 to 21 in 1967.

Despite the increased population, fewer deaths occurred. The death rate of 10.2 per 1,000 population is the lowest ever recorded and is significantly below the death rate for England and Wales of 11.2.

There were no maternal deaths and this has been the case for the past six years.

The death rate from Cancer was 2.15. This is slightly less than the 2.27 rate of England and Wales. The death rate from Tuberculosis — 0.02 — also compares favourably with the national rate of .037.

Heart disease, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous systems accounted for 68.6% of the total deaths. This is a slight percentage increase in the previous year. Pneumonia and bronchitis were unchanged at 11.2%. It will be seen that these five diseases were responsible for four of every five deaths.

33.3% of male deaths and 54.7% of female deaths were over 75 years of age. Male deaths from coronary disease and angina between the ages of 45 and 75 are the main reasons for the disparity between these figures.

The Department has an important role to play in connection with the control of infectious and notifiable diseases. Some of these diseases are of extreme importance whilst others — mainly those associated with children — are of much less significance. The incidence of measles — 272 cases — was below average but this was to be expected after the exceptionally high figure of 822 for 1966. A free

measles vaccination service backed by a National Campaign is to start in 1968 and I sincerely hope that parents of children who have not had measles will co-operate in ensuring their children are protected by this new vaccine. The use of the measles vaccine could bring about a striking drop in the disease. A recent trial has confirmed the high degree of protection given. During a two-year follow-up period, confirmed cases were only 13 per 1,000 compared with 222 per 1,000 in an unvaccinated group. The main medical argument in favour of immunisation against measles is that about one in every 15 persons with measles suffers a potentially serious complication.

There was a reduction in the number of cases of Sonnei Dysentery — 75 as against 100 in the previous year. The bulk of the cases were centred on infant schools and day nurseries. In one instance it was necessary to exclude from his work as a food handler the father of one of the children suffering from dysentery. Eighteen cases of food poisoning were notified but none arose from food prepared within the district. This figure is equal to the total number of cases for the previous five years. It included 12 cases of *Salmonella typhimurium* caused by the consumption of infected confectionery. Egg products in the confectionery were strongly suspected as the ingredient which caused the food poisoning. A number of persons in other local authority areas were also affected.

The first two persons notified as suffering from sickness and diarrhoea lived approximately six miles apart. The information obtained at the interviews with the patients did not immediately indicate any link between the cases. However, some astute investigations by Mr. Shepherd resulted in a quick identification of the source of the food poisoning and enabled steps to be quickly taken to prevent further consumption of infected food. At one of the infected households, the only person free from infection was a school meals cook. She was, however, excluded from her work until the remainder of her family were cleared.

A further five persons suffered from food poisoning whilst on holiday abroad and an infection of *Salmonella* organisms was subsequently confirmed on return to the district. Again it was found that one of the patients was a food handler and it is clear that only constant vigilance by the Department will ensure that such patients do not become a potential hazard to the general public.

The remaining case was a delayed notification from a hospital at Blackburn. The patient had been admitted after suffering from stomach pains for several weeks.

A large number of mild cases of food poisoning which occurred in the County Borough of Bolton were caused by the consumption of poultry infected with *Salmonella virchow*. A wide ranging investigation followed including extensive enquiries at a poultry slaughtering and packing station at Longton which was one of a number of firms suspected of having supplied the infected poultry to the retail shop at Bolton.

A start was made by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Brucellosis Eradication Scheme. This is a long term aim. The first task is to build up a register of brucella free herds. Several farmers in the Council's area have had their herds accepted for testing for inclusion in the scheme. Accompanied by Mr. Eaxter, I attended at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a regional meeting arranged for farmers and others interested in the eradication of Brucellosis.

The meeting was well supported by local farmers. A Ministry representative outlined the basis of the eradication scheme and I was able to explain the role of the local authority including my duty to detect and prevent the sale of milk in-

fects with *Brucella* organisms. The action I have taken to ensure, as far as is practicable, that untreated milk supplied to the public is brucella free, is now paying dividends. The current practice is to sample raw milk suppliers at monthly intervals. Unsatisfactory samples are followed up at the farm by the District Inspector and the necessary action taken including the service of a Pasteurisation Notice in instances where this is the appropriate method of ensuring a disease-free supply. Recently, there has been a substantial reduction in the number of samples of milk produced within the district which have been found to be infected. In only four instances was it necessary to serve notices in 1967. The majority of the dairy farms in the district send their milk direct to pasteurising plants in neighbouring towns. Consequently, the need for sampling such milk, in order to protect the public against *Brucella* infection, does not arise. However, the farmer and his family invariably consume the milk produced on their own farm. The absence of testing, or the substantially reduced amount of testing, for brucella on this type of dairy farm results in the milk supply carrying more than an average risk of infection and it is significant that the majority of cases of human brucellosis notified to the Department are farmers or members of their families.

An unusual event occurred at the Knackers Yard. The circumstances were as follows:—

Dead cows are frequently brought into the yard. One arrived on a Friday evening in December and was cut up by the slaughterman on duty for sterilising the following day. Later that day the owner, when visiting the slaughter hall, noticed certain characteristic conditions which caused him to suspect anthrax (these conditions had been missed by the slaughterman when cutting up the carcase). As a result, the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was brought in. Specimens of blood were taken and anthrax confirmed. We had an arrangement with the owner for the immediate inoculation of men who had been in contact with an anthrax carcase. In this instance my Deputy, Dr. Pover visited the premises and carried out the necessary inoculations.

Personal Health and Welfare Services continue to be developed by the County Council. One of the more recently introduced services which is operating satisfactorily is the screening examination to detect early cancer of the cervix-uteri. Of importance to the Council is the inclusion in the year 1969/70 of the construction of a Health Centre/Clinic at Longton.

Towards the end of the year Mr. Saunders, who had held for over 20 years a joint appointment as Chief Administrative Officer to both the Public Health Department and the Surveyor's Department, severed his connection with the Department in order to devote the whole of his time in the office of the Surveyor. I wish to record my sincere appreciation of his services over this period.

In concluding this introduction, I would like to pay tribute to the staff of the Department who, although small in number for a district of approximately 50,000 population, carried out their wide range of duties in a competent and excellent manner.

I should also like to express my sincere thanks to the members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support and interest in the work of the Department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE AREA

The Rural District is largely a lowland area, mainly below 250 feet, lying largely to the north of the River Ribble, but with considerable extensions south of the river, south-west and east of Preston. In the extreme north of the district the land rises rapidly to 874 feet at Beacon Fell, and in the east, heights of over a thousand feet are attained on the southern slopes of Longridge Fell. North of Preston the drainage is largely eastwards to the River Wyre, while the rest of the district drains directly or indirectly into the Ribble.

The solid geological formations represented in the district are buried beneath a thick cover of "drift" deposits. Apart from the valley alluvium of the rivers and streams and the raised terraces, along the Ribble and Darwen, the "drift" is composed of glacial boulder clay, sand and gravel.

The latter occur only as impersistent patches on the boulder clay, such as that to the north-east of Goosnargh, or is exposed in the sides of the many stream valleys. Boulder clay covers most of the district, and in general gives rise to a heavy clay soil. The numerous marl pits which were dug many years ago to obtain material to lighten the soil are a characteristic feature of boulder clay areas. The heavy clay soils provide excellent pastures which support dairy herds, and arable farming is of less importance. Poultry farming is widespread, as it is throughout the whole of the Fylde area.

The solid rocks have little effect on the physical features of the area because of the thick drift cover. Over much of the area this thick cover renders it impossible to determine with any degree of accuracy the nature and structure of the underlying rocks, unless borings are undertaken. In the extreme north and east of the district, however, the solid formations outcrop at the surface. These outcrops belong to the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit formation. The former is the oldest formation represented in the district, but here it does not carry the massive limestone beds so characteristic of other areas, e.g. Clitheroe. It is composed of a thick series of shales with thin limestones, which underlie the greater part of the parishes of Goosnargh, Whittingham and Houghton. Towards the top of the latter there is a rather thicker limestone bed, the Pendleside Limestone, which occurs on the northern flanks of Longridge Fell. The top of the Carboniferous Limestone is formed by the Lower Bowland Shales, which contain a fairly characteristic grit band, the Pendleside Grit. These occur on Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell. The Millstone Grit is represented by a series of grits and shales. The lowest beds are the Upper Bowland Shales, which are succeeded by the massive Pendle Grit. This latter forms the conspicuous feature of Beacon Fell and Longridge Fell, and together with the overlying shales and grits, underlie the parishes of Hothersall, Ribchester and Dutton. Millstone Grit shales and grits are present beneath the "drift" in the southern part of the parish of Samlesbury, and the north-east part of Grimsargh parish. The grits in this area have not been tried as a source of water supply, so the potentiality of water bores is not known. Results from boring in grits vary considerably according to the nature of the grit and its openness of grain and extent of the jointing and fissuring.

West of the Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit occurs the Triassic Bunter Sandstone, a fairly hard red, yellow or buff-coloured sandstone. The details of structure and the position of faults are only assumed, but the following picture has been obtained by the study of available bore records. The Bunter Sandstone is faulted against or overlies the most steeply dipping Carboniferous Limestone shales,

and the Millstone Grit to the east and south-east. The sandstone dips gently to the north-west, and occurs beneath the "drift" in the parishes of Barton, Woodplumpton, Lea, Hutton, Penwortham, Cuerdale, the south-west part of the parish of Grimsargh, and the north-west part of Samlesbury parish. It is affected by strong faults, the exact positions of which are difficult to determine.

Keuper Marl, thinly bedded, fine grained red marls with bands and patches of green-coloured marls and thin bands of fine grained sandstone or "skerries", are present beneath the boulder clay in the parishes of Longton, Little Hoole, Much Hoole and Farington. The beds dip north-westwards and are separated from the Bunter Sandstone to the north by a fault. Borings in Keuper Marl give little or no water, and that which is obtained is too highly mineralised to be of use for public supply.

General Statistics

STATISTICS AND GENERAL SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

- (1) Area in acres — 49,754.
- (2) Population (Census 1961) — 43,503.
- (3) Registrar-General's estimate of home population, 1967 — 49,220.
- (4) Number of inhabited houses (Census 1961) — 13,294.
- (5) Number of inhabited houses end of 1967, according to Rate Book — 16,191.
- (6) Rateable value, 31st March, 1967 — £1,704,005.
- (7) Sum represented by a penny rate — £6,792.

Year	Reg. Gen. mid year estimates of population	Increase over previous year	% Increase	Rateable Value 1st April	% Increase of R.V.
1964	45,970	860	1.90	1,560,701	2.75
1965	47,190	1,220	2.65	1,618,330	3.69
1966	48,320	1,130	2.46	1,670,711	3.24
1967	49,220	900	1.86	1,704,005	1.99
1968				1,752,156	2.83

The Rural District, which is mainly agricultural, consists chiefly of pleasant undulating country, dotted here and there with patches of woodland, and watered by innumerable brooks.

Dairy farming, poultry farming, market gardening, cotton manufacture, paper manufacture and engineering comprise the main industries. There was little evidence of unemployment among the inhabitants of the district in 1967.

There are facilities for religious worship, according to denomination, throughout the district, and several parishes have Village Halls and/or Women's Institutes. In addition, there are clubs based upon religious, political or recreational groups, and in these places, particularly in the winter months, lectures, concerts, dramatic society meetings, plays, debates and dances are held.

VITAL STATISTICS

PERIOD	DEATHS (all causes)		LIVE BIRTHS		STILL- BIRTHS		LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	INFANT MORTALITY				NEO- NATAL	ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS	MATERNAL MORTALITY	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Popula- tion	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births		TOTAL			per cent of total Live Births			No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births
								No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Rate per 1000 legiti- mate Live Births					
Year ... 1967...	631	12.8	840	*17.1	4	5.0	844	21	25.0	26.3	25	19.0	4.9	—	—
Year ... 1966...	693	14.3	853	17.7	19	21.8	872	15	17.6	16.9	37	12.9	3.1	—	—
1965...	645	13.7	808	17.1	12	14.6	820	16	19.8	16.6	115	14.9	3.2	—	—
1964...	633	13.8	784	17.1	8	10.1	792	15	19.1	17.2	71	10.2	3.5	—	—
1963...	669	14.8	763	16.9	20	25.5	783	10	13.1	12.1	50	6.6	2.5	—	—
1962...	606	13.6	754	16.9	16	20.8	770	17	22.5	23.1	—	18.6	2.5	—	—
Average 5 years 1962—1966	—	14.0	—	17.1	—	18.5	—	—	18.4	17.1	54	12.6	—	—	0.00

* Adjusted (live birth-rate; comparability factor, 1.07 } = 18.2 per 1,000
(death-rate; comparability factor, 0.91 } = 11.6 per 1,000

Golf courses are situate at Penwortham and Lea. There are cricket grounds at Broughton, New Longton, Penwortham and Whittingham. Facilities for tennis, football and bowls are available, and Playing Fields have been provided by the Rural District Council in practically all parishes.

There are 39 schools in the area, providing facilities for both primary and secondary education, and the Lancashire County Council provides branches of the County Library mostly in schools and village halls throughout the district.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births. The statistics with regard to both births and deaths, have again been supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Public Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for "inward" and "outward" transfers.

According to the Registrar-General, the total births registered in or belonging to the Rural Area during the year 1967 number 840 (males 417, females 423); 13 less than in the year 1966.

The live birth-rate for the Rural District, calculated on the estimated home population, corresponds to 17.1 per 1,000, as against 17.7 last year. The adjusted birth-rate, using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General, is 18.2. The live birth-rate for England and Wales for the year 1967 was 17.2.

The sex distribution of the children born alive during 1967 is shown below. For comparative purposes, the figures for the previous decade are also given:

Year		Males		Females		Total
1957	.....	302	.....	281	.....	583
1958	.....	282	.....	301	.....	583
1959	.....	319	.....	306	.....	625
1960	.....	326	.....	328	.....	654
1961	.....	341	.....	362	.....	703
1962	.....	364	.....	390	.....	754
1963	.....	417	.....	346	.....	763
1964	.....	394	.....	390	.....	784
1965	.....	418	.....	390	.....	808
1966	.....	461	.....	392	.....	853
1967	.....	417	.....	423	.....	840

EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS

The figure for 1967 is 209, the ninth successive natural increase in the population of the Rural District since all deaths occurring in the Whittingham and Ribchester Hospitals have had to be accepted (i.e., 1st January, 1954). If such deaths are omitted then the natural increase in the population for the period of the last decade is as follows:

Year	1958	.....	155	Year	1963	.....	264
„	1959	.....	233	„	1964	.....	322
„	1960	.....	212	„	1965	.....	369
„	1961	.....	257	„	1966	.....	365
„	1962	.....	294	„	1967	.....	376

Illegitimate Live Births. The number of births of illegitimate children belonging to the Rural District and recognised during 1967 compared with that of every other year of the last decade is shown below:

Year	1958	.....	14	Year	1963	.....	20
„	1959	.....	16	„	1964	.....	28
„	1960	.....	18	„	1965	.....	26
„	1961	.....	17	„	1966	.....	27
„	1962	.....	19	„	1967	.....	41

DEATHS. The net deaths actually belonging to the Preston Rural District for the year 1967 numbered 631 (males 324, females 307). This total includes deaths of persons belonging to the Rural District who died outside the district, and of persons who died in the Whittingham Hospital and Ribchester Institution irrespective of their home address.

The death-rate for the Rural District calculated on a home population of 49,220 is 12.8 per 1,000. Last year the death-rate was 14.3. The average death-rate for the five years 1961-1966 was 13.4.

The Registrar-General has supplied a comparability factor for adjusting local death-rates. This factor takes into account the varying population constitution, including sex and age distribution, to make every district comparative from the mortality point of view with the crude death-rate of the country as a whole, or with similarly adjusted death-rates for other areas. The adjusted death-rate using the comparability factor is 10.2 per 1,000, as against last year's adjusted rate of 11.0.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1967 was 11.2 per 1,000 home population.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH. Approximately 70 per cent. of all deaths each year are classified to causes falling within three main groups—heart disease, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system. The relative importance of these and of other principle causes of death in 1967 is shown in the following table:

Cause of Death	No. of deaths	Percentage of total deaths
Heart disease (all forms)	228 (243)	36.0 (35.0)
Vascular lesions of nervous system	102 (101)	16.0 (14.6)
Cancer (including Hodgkin's disease, leukaemia and aleukaemia)	106 (99)	16.6 (14.3)
Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Influenza	71 (76)	11.2 (10.9)
Other circulatory disease	23 (31)	3.6 (4.5)
Violence (including all Accidents, Suicide and Homicide)	32 (29)	5.0 (4.2)

The figures in brackets show the number of deaths for 1966.

There are no significant changes in the principal causes of death compared with 1966, the number attributable to the three main groups remaining virtually the same.

In the following paragraphs, further details are given of the chief causes of death.

HEART DISEASES. The deaths classified to the heart disease as grouped in the Registrar-General's Short List and assigned to the Rural District in 1967 are shown in the following table, together with the resultant death-rates per 1,000 of the estimated home population and the corresponding figures for the previous five years:

Year	Coronary disease angina			Hypertension with heart disease			Other heart disease			Total all forms		
	No. of deaths	Death rate		No. of deaths	Death rate		No. of deaths	Death rate		No. of deaths	Death rate	
1963	138	3.06	.....	26	0.57	.....	135	3.00	.....	299	6.63	
1964	122	2.65	.....	14	0.30	.....	102	2.21	.....	238	5.10	
1965	121	2.56	.....	14	0.29	.....	108	2.28	.....	243	5.14	
1966	123	2.54	.....	16	0.33	.....	104	2.15	.....	243	5.03	
1967	146	2.9	.....	9	0.18	.....	73	1.48	.....	228	4.63	

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, INCLUDING NEOPLASMS OF LYMPHATIC AND HÆMATOPOIETIC TISSUES.

This group of causes is included in the Registrar-General's Short List under the headings used in the table below, which gives particulars of deaths assigned to the Rural District in 1967 and the previous year by sex:

Classification	1967			1966		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Stomach	11	6	17	8	6	14
Lung Bronchus	16	5	21	14	6	20
Breast	—	13	13	—	9	9
Uterus.....	—	3	3	—	7	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	30	19	49	31	16	47
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	3	3	2	—	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total—all forms	57	49	106	55	44	99
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Mortality from cancer of the stomach, lungs and breast showed a slight increase. This was offset to some extent by a reduction in cancer of the uterus.

Of the total deaths from all causes assigned to the Rural District in 1967, the 106 classified to all forms of cancer represented 16.6% and were equivalent to a rate of 2.15 per thousand of the estimated Rural District population, which is slightly less than the rate for England and Wales.

PNEUMONIA, BRONCHITIS AND INFLUENZA

Deaths assigned to these cause groups—Pneumonia 44, Bronchitis 24, Influenza 3—dropped by nearly 8% compared with 1966.

OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE

This classification, which covers all diseases of the circulatory system except heart diseases mentioned earlier, accounted in 1967 for 22 deaths, a decline of nearly 30%. The mortality rate per thousand of the estimated Rural District population was 0.44 compared with rates of 0.64 and 0.65 for 1966 and 1965 respectively.

VIOLENCE

Deaths from violence are divided into four groups in the Registrar-General's short list of 36 causes of death—motor vehicle accidents, all other accidents, suicide and homicide and operations of war. The deaths thus classified and assigned to the Rural District in 1967, taking them in the same order, were 6, 18, 8 and Nil—a total of 32 compared with 29 recorded deaths during 1966. The figures represent a decrease in road deaths associated with motor vehicles and an increase in mortality from all other accidents.

The following table shows the net deaths actually belonging to the Rural District for the year 1967, distinguishing males and females and at different periods of life, and the causes of death agree with the Short List of 36 Causes of Death based on the Sixth Revision of International Lists.

Cause of death	Sex	4 Weeks			Age in years											
		Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	and under 1 year												
					1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75 & over			
1. Tuberculosis—	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
respiratory	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
2. Tuberculosis—	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
other	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
infections	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
parasitic diseases	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm	M	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	5	—	—
stomach	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	—
11. Malignant neoplasm	M	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	2	—	—
lung, bronchus	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—
12. Malignant neoplasm																
breast	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	3	3	—	—
13. Malignant neoplasm																
uterus	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and	M	30	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	9	10	5	—	—
Lymphatic neoplasms	F	19	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	1	6	5	—	—
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
16. Diabetes	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—
17. Vascular Lesions of	M	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	17	18	—	—
nervous system	F	60	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	5	11	40	—	—
18. Coronary disease	M	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	22	29	24	—
angina	F	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	16	33	—	—
19. Hypertension with	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
heart disease	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—
20. Other heart disease	M	29	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	7	18	—	—
	F	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	35	—	—
21. Other circulatory	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	—	—
disease	F	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	11	—	—
22. Influenza	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

Cause of death	Sex	4 Weeks			Age in years								
		Total	Under	and	1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75 & over
		ages	4 weeks	under 1 year									
23. Pneumonia	M	19	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	7
	F	25	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	5	14
24. Bronchitis	M	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	9	3
	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	M	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	M	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	25	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	2	9
	F	19	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents	M	5	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
34. All other accidents	M	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4
	F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	5
35. Suicide	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	324	12	4	1	—	3	1	6	28	58	103	108
	F	307	4	1	1	3	3	1	5	20	37	64	168

INFANT MORTALITY

The deaths of infants under the age of one year numbered 21 (males 16, females 5), representing an increase of 25 per cent compared with 1966. About two thirds of the infant deaths occurred during the first four weeks after birth. They were equivalent to a rate of 25 per 1,000.

The following table analyses the causes of death in 1967 of infants at stated age periods:

Causes of Death	DAYS												MONTHS											Total Deaths under one year
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	14	21-28	28-56	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11-12			
Congenital Malformations	...	1	1	1	1	4	
Pneumonia	1	...	1	2	1	1	6	
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Birth Injuries	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Diseases peculiar to early Infancy	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2		
All other causes	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2		
Totals	...	4	4	4	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	21

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Infectious cases are removed to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston, and transport arrangements are expeditious.

A pleasing feature of the annual review of the prevalence of notifiable diseases and non-notifiable acute infectious diseases is the repeated statement that no cases of diphtheria and smallpox have been recorded during the year. This can also be said of Acute Poliomyelitis during 1967.

Scarlet Fever. The 21 notified cases of this disease represent a decrease of 23 when compared with the average annual figure of the previous decade. Case distribution was fairly widespread.

Whooping Cough. Twenty cases were notified which is 12 more than the average for the previous five years.

Measles (excluding rubella). The incidence of measles followed its usual biennial pattern of "high and low" as the following figures illustrate:

1964	.....	649	.....	1966	.....	822
1965	.....	224	.....	1967	.....	272

Typhoid. No cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid occurred but it was necessary to keep a number of contacts under surveillance.

Tuberculosis. Of the 11 cases added to the Council's register during the year under review, 2 were transferred cases from other local authority areas. Of the 9 notified new cases, 7 were respiratory tuberculosis.

General. The investigation of outbreaks of notifiable diseases and non-notifiable acute infectious diseases is a constant process which makes heavy demands on the staff of the Department, as the figure of 389 recorded visits for 1967 signifies. Schoolchildren are particularly vulnerable to attacks of gastro-enteritis and other ill-defined sickness and diarrhoea as well as infective hepatitis or epidemic jaundice as it is more commonly known, and only prolonged and dedicated enquiry work limits primary spread and prevents secondary infection. Outbreaks of diarrhoea and sickness occurred amongst schoolchildren in the parishes of Farington, Lea, Barton, Broughton and Samlesbury.

Notifications. The table below shows the number of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year 1967 after corrections subsequently made either by notifying medical practitioners or by the medical superintendent of the local infectious diseases hospital.

**Notification of Infectious and other Notifiable Diseases (after correction)
for the year ended 31st December, 1967, analysed by age**

Notifiable diseases	Total Cases Notified											Total Deaths
	Total Cases at all ages	Age Periods—Years										
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	Age unknown	
Scarlet Fever ...	21	—	1	4	1	3	8	3	—	1	—	
Whooping Cough...	20	2	2	—	4	1	5	3	2	1	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis												
Paralytic ...	—											
Non-paralytic ...	—											
Measles (excluding rubella ...	272	19	34	49	52	40	71	3	2	1	1	
Diphtheria ...	—											
Dysentery ...	75	2	1	3	8	3	10	2	4	32	10	
Meningococcal Infection ...	—											
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—											
		0-	5	15	45	65 and over	Age unknown					
Acute Pneumonia (prim & infl'zal) ...	—			2								
Smallpox ...	—											
Acute Encephalitis												
Infective ...	—											
Post-infectious ...	—											
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	—											
Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	2										
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Food Poisoning ...	18	—	4	9	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis ...												
Respiratory ...	5	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other ...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—											

The township distribution of specified notifiable diseases is set out in tabular form for the year 1967, and for comparison the totals for the preceding four years are given:

Townships	Scarlet Fever		Dysentery		Measles		Whoop'g Cough	
	Cases notified	Cases removed	Cases notified	Cases removed	Cases notified	Cases removed	Cases notified	Cases removed
Barton ... ..	...	...	4	...	3	...	...	...
Broughton ... ..	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	...
Cuerdale ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutton ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farington	2	...	17	...	28	...	2	...
Goosnargh	9	...	...	...	8	...	2	...
Grimsargh	1	...	...	...	7	...	4	...
Haighton ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hothersall ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Hutton	1	...	1	...	21	...	...	...
Lea	1	...	4	...	2	...	...	...
Little Hoole ... ..	...	...	...	...	39	...	...	...
Longton ... ..	...	...	5	...	48	...	...	...
Much Hoole ... ..	...	...	...	...	29	...	...	...
Penwortham	7	...	16	...	62	...	8	...
Ribchester ... ..	...	...	2	...	10	...	4	...
Samlesbury ... ..	...	...	4	...	9	...	...	...
Whittingham ... ..	...	...	19	...	1	...	...	...
Woodplumpton ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
1967 TOTAL ...	21	...	75	...	272	...	20	...
1966 TOTAL ...	44	...	100	...	822	...	4	...
1965 TOTAL ...	20	...	45	4	224	1	1	...
1964 TOTAL ...	36	3	15	...	649	...	22	...
1963 TOTAL ...	16	8	21	4	349	...	17	...

TUBERCULOSIS

The scheme for the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis in the Administrative County is administered by the Lancashire County Council and the Manchester Region Hospitals Board respectively.

A number of dispensaries are provided for the diagnosis of the disease, staffed by Chest Physicians and Tuberculosis Health Visitors. These dispensaries work in close association with the Sanatoria, and serve a valuable purpose in the main essence of supervision of patients after their discharge therefrom.

The dispensary for patients residing in the Rural District is situated at Sharoe Green Hospital, Fulwood.

The first table below gives in certain specified age groups the male and female notified cases of respiratory and non-respiratory tuberculosis in the year 1966, together with the deaths therefrom.

The second tables gives a comparison with the previous five years, but excludes age distribution.

Age Periods Years	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
35 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
75 and upwards	...	1	...	...	.	1	...	...
Totals ...	3	2	1	1	1	1	...	...
	5		2		2		...	

YEAR	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1967	3	2	1	1	1	1	...	...
1966	7	2	1	1	1	...	...	...
1965	7	5	...	...	2	1	...	...
1964	7	4	...	...	2	1	1	...
1963	10	4	1	...	1	...	...	...
1962	16	5	1	1	4	...	...	...

The 9 new cases added to the register during the year could be classified as occurring amongst (1) permanent residents 8, (2) residents of Whittingham Hospital 1.

Removals from the register numbered 6; 2 patients died, 3 recovered and 1 patient was transferred to another administrative area.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47)

Number of applications made during the year Nil
Number of Orders made Nil

SCHOOLS

There are 39 schools in the Rural Area providing facilities for both primary and secondary education, and the sanitary circumstances prevailing at these schools are categorised below, viz.:

No. of schools with fresh water closets	38
No. of schools with chemical closets	1
No. of schools with drainage to public sewers	23
No. of schools with drainage to private treatment works	15
No. of schools with dustbins	39
No. of schools with water supply from public mains	39
No. of schools with satisfactory drinking facilities	39
No. of schools with satisfactory washing facilities	36
No. of schools with satisfactory yard surfaces	37

NEW LEGISLATION

The following new legislation, inter alia, is now in force or will shortly come into force:

Land Drainage (Grants) Regulations, 1967.
Slaughter of Poultry Act, 1967.
Meat Pie & Sausage Roll Regulations, 1967.
Food (Control of Irradiation) Regulations, 1967.
Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection Grant) Revocation Regulations, 1967.
Importation of Carcases and Animal Products (Amendment) Order, 1967.
Canned Meat Product Regulations, 1967.
Sausage and Other Meat Products Regulations, 1967.
Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations, 1967.
Removal of Refuse Regulations, 1967.
Solvents in Food Regulations, 1967.
Labelling of Food Regulations, 1967.
Coffee & Coffee Products Regulations, 1967.
Ice Cream Regulations, 1967.
Margarine Regulations, 1967.
Private Places of Entertainment (Licensing) Act, 1967.
Refreshment Houses Act, 1967.
Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act, 1967.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The first table below contains the prescribed information referred to in paragraph 8(c) of Circular No. 1/66 issued by the Ministry of Health on January 11th, 1966.

The second table illustrates the effective use which has been made of the Food Hygiene Regulations by showing the nature of the improvement works secured by the District Public Health Inspectorate and the number of food premises involved:

Type of food premises or trade	Total No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19	
Butcher	29	...	29	...	29
Grocer	102	...	102	...	102
Baker and Confectioner ...	12	...	12	...	12
Sweets	25	...	25	...	23
Greengrocer	19	...	19	...	19
Fish and Chips	11	...	11	...	11
Licensed premises	59	...	59	...	59
Cafes	19	...	19	...	19
Fish Merchant	2	...	2	...	2
Confectioner	13	...	13	...	13
Chemist	7	...	7	...	7
Wines and Spirits	1	...	1	...	1
Pickles and Onions	1	...	1	...	1
Brewery	1	...	1	...	1
Egg Packer.....	4	...	4	...	3
Canteen	54	...	54	...	54
Poultry establishment	33	...	33	...	33
Totals	392	...	392	...	392

Nature of Work	No. of premises
Installation of wash basin with hot and cold water supplies and toilet requisites	109
Installation of sink with hot and cold water supplies and washing utensil requisites	37
Provision of hot water supply to sink or wash basin	21
Repairs and improvements to premises and fixtures	98
Cleansing of premises	47
Provision of adequate ventilation	37
Provision of first-aid equipment	24
Provision of suitable food store	12
Provision of storage accommodation for utensils	6

The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council's (General Powers) Act, 1961, are as follows:

Type of Business	Act	No.
Ice Cream	Section 16, F. and D., 1955	162
Preserved foods, etc.	ditto	9
Hawkers' premises	Section 14, L.C.C. Act, 1951	23

CONTAMINATED FOOD

The procedure followed on receipt of a genuine complaint of contaminated food is to invite the representative of the manufacturing firm concerned to attend at the Council Offices for interview. The most common complaints received relate to foreign bodies in milk bottles, contaminated bread and pies affected by mould. In one instance a local dairy was fined £25 0s. 0d. in respect of fragments of glass found in a milk bottle.

LIQUID EGG

There are no liquid egg pasteurisation plants in the district and enquiries made at confectioners' shops showed that this product was not being used.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

A meat inspection service was provided at the slaughterhouse at Whittingham Hospital and also a private slaughterhouse at Farington.

The following table shows the numbers of certain classes of animals killed in the Rural Area during 1967, together with the number and result of the inspections carried out.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	336	82	Nil	1540	45
Number inspected	336	82	Nil	1540	45
All diseases except Tuberculosis and and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	135	30	Nil	133	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	39	36	Nil	8	2
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cysticercosis					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are 33 poultry processing establishments within the district and altogether 250 visits were made to these premises during the year under review. Over 2,000,000 birds were processed including turkeys, ducks, hens, broilers and capons. 1.5 per cent. of the birds were rejected as being unfit for human consumption.

SAMPLING — FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the Assistant County Public Health Officer under the provisions of the above Act are:—

A total of 257 samples was obtained comprising 151 milks (of which 17 were Channel Island milk) and 106 others as follows:—

1 Sauce	2 Meat & Vegetables, canned
2 Ground Cloves	1 Soup, canned
1 Dried Herbs	1 Pickled Red Cabbage
3 Tea	1 Ground Rice
1 Benadryl Elixir	2 Dried Fruit
1 Tyrozets	1 Desiccated Coconut
2 Pork Sausage	1 Sugar
2 Cocoa	2 Bacon
2 Baking Powder	1 Pickled Gherkins
2 Barley	1 Pickled Walnuts
2 Beef Sausage	1 Pickles
1 Pinhead Meal	1 Peanuts and Raisins in Chocolate
1 Dried Vegetables	1 Fresh Eggs
3 Margarine	1 Dried Milk, Full Cream,
2 Cooking Fat	Compound
2 Semolina	1 Shoulder Ham
1 Coffee & Chicory Essence, Liquid, Unsweetened	1 Lemon Pie Filling
2 Meat Paste	1 Lemon Cheese
1 Glycerin	1 Mineral Water
1 Self Raising Flour	2 Zinc Ointment B.P.
1 White Pepper	1 Baby Food
1 Powdered Gelatine	1 Borax B.P.
1 Tapioca	1 Fritter Mix
1 Dripping	3 Flavouring Material
2 Gravy Browning	2 Butter
1 Fruit Curd	1 Aspirin Tablets B.P.
1 Ice Cream	1 Ground Cinnamon
2 Flour Confectionery	1 Baked Beans in Tomato Sauce, Canned
2 Cheese	1 Fish, canned
2 Nembutal Capsules	3 Soft Drink, canned
1 Saluric Tablets	1 Buttermilk Drink
1 Coffee Extract, dry	4 Edible cake decorations
1 Ferraplex B. Tablets	1 Glace Angelica
1 Eye Lotion	1 Marzipan
1 Essence of Rennet	1 Stuffed Olives
2 Custard Powder	1 Sweetening Tablets
1 Bottled Fruit	1 Arrowroot
1 Plain Flour	1 Cumberland Brandy Flavoured Butter
1 Sterilised Cream	

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
Informal milk	Fat 2.95%. Deficient 1.6% fat and slightly low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Formal Milk	Fat 2.90%. Deficient 3.3% fat.	Producer notified
Informal milk	Fat 2.95%. Deficient 1.6% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Informal milk	Fat 1.80%. Deficient 40% fat. Freezing point indicates 1.3% entraneous water.	Formal sample advised
Dripping	Bore a price stamp of grocery distributors but no address or trade mark, unless packed on premises from which sold, should bear the name and address of the packer.	Vendor communicated with
Formal Milk	Contained 0.06 International Unit penicillin per ml.	Producer cautioned and M.M.B. informed
Formal Milk	Fat 2.80%. Deficient 6.6% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Formal Milk	Fat 2.80%. Deficient 6.6% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Formal Milk	Fat 2.75%. Deficient 8.3% fat and low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
Informal milk	Contained 0.08 International Unit penicillin per ml.	Producer cautioned and M.M.B. notified
Pork Sausage	Contained 157 parts per million of sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration	Vendor interviewed and cautioned
Formal Milk	Fat 2.80%. Deficient 6.6% fat.	Producer notified
Edible-Cake Decorations	Contained artificial blue colouring matter Blue VRS. As from June 1967 this colour has been excluded from the list of coal tar colours permitted for use in food.	Manufacturers notified and stock withdrawn from sale
Beef Sausage	Contained 320 parts per million of sulphite preservative.	Vendor cautioned

PERCENTAGE OF UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS

Year		Total No. of samples		No. of unsatisfactory samples		Percentage unsatisfactory
1963	.....	275	.....	15	.....	5.4
1964	.....	243	.....	13	.....	5.3
1965	.....	247	.....	10	.....	4.0
1966	.....	246	.....	15	.....	6.0
1967	.....	257	.....	14	.....	5.4

SWIMMING POOLS

There is one swimming pool in the district. Samples have shown the arrangements for chlorination and filtration to be satisfactory.

It is anticipated that the swimming pool at a former boys' camp at Hothersall, now a Field Studies Centre, will be brought into use by the Lancashire County Council Education Department in 1968 for use by all schools in the County area.

Water Supplies

The two major sources of water distribution in the Rural District are the Preston & District and Fylde Water Boards, who supply 40,000 and 9,000 water consumers respectively. Both supplies are controlled at source by both chemical and bacteriological tests, not only of raw water but, where treatment is installed, of the water going into the supply. In addition, it is the responsibility of the Council to ensure the water supply to the district is satisfactory in quality and routine sampling from domestic taps in the various townships was carried out by officers of the Council. Only one sample was found to be bacteriologically unsatisfactory. Samples indicated that the lead content was less than 0.05 p.p.m. The fluoride content is 0.05 p.p.m. for the Preston water and less than 0.1 p.p.m. for Fylde water. Following a comprehensive survey of all private water supplies in the Rural District in 1966, a number of properties, principally in the parishes of Dutton and Goosnargh, have been connected to the public water mains which have recently been extended into outlying areas.

The following table gives details of water supplies in the various townships. The number of houses on private supply was reduced from 88 in 1966 to 79.

Parish	No. of houses newly connected to public mains supply during 1967		From Public Mains				From Private Supplies, <i>e.g.</i> wells, springs, etc.	
			Direct to houses		By means of standpipe			
	Existing houses	New houses	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of popula- tion	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of popula- tion	No. of dwelling houses	Estimtd. No. of popula- tion
Barton	23	623	1826	...	...	...	...
Broughton	2	185	547	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale	10	45	...	...	...	...
Dutton ...	6	...	41	135	...	...	25	72
Farington	7	1552	4442	...	...	...	...
Goosnargh ...	2	2	288	1018	...	...	34	98
Grimsargh	22	320	963	...	...	...	...
Haighton	1	67	237	...	...	1	3
Hothersall	41	159	...	...	...	...
Hutton	38	848	2467	...	...	...	...
Lea	27	1226	3691	...	...	4	11
Little Hoole	16	336	897	...	...	...	...
Longton	194	2328	6432	...	...	...	...
Much Hoole	47	435	1202	...	...	2	7
Penwortham	34	5697	16614	...	...	...	...
Ribchester	6	497	1402	...	...	8	25
Samlesbury	19	398	1168	...	...	3	10
Whittingham ...	1	6	552	3892	...	...	1	4
Woodplumpton	11	606	1850	...	...	1	3
TOTAL Whole District	9	455	16050	48987	...	...	79	233

Copies of typical chemical results are given below expressed as parts per million.

Preston and District Water Board

	Thirlmere		Longridge
Total solid residue	37.5	.....	60.0
Oxygen required to oxydise { in 15 mins.	0.43	.....	1.12
} in 3 hours	0.79	.....	1.69
Ammonia – Free and Saline	0.026	.....	0.05
Ammonia - Albuminoid	0.055	.....	0.11
Nitrogen as Nitrates.....	0.23	.....	0.20
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil	.....	Nil
Chlorides	10.0	.....	12.0
Temporary hardness	2.0	.....	Nil
Permanent hardness	20.5	.....	26.0
Total hardness	22.5	.....	26.0
pH value	7.2	.....	7.2
Physical properties – Colour	9.25 hazen	.....	18 hazen

Fylde Water Board

	Hodder Supply		Whitechapel Supply
Appearance	clear & bright	...	clear & bright
Colour (Hazen p. p. m. Pt)	4	.....	5
Turbidity (p. p. m. Silica)	Nil	.....	Nil
Odour	Nil	.....	Nil
Taste	Normal	.....	Normal
Reaction pH Value	8.0	.....	6.3
			p.p.m.
Residual Chlorine	0.15	.....	0.05
Free & Saline Ammonia as N ₂	0.02	.....	0.04
Albuminoid Ammonia as N ₂	0.04	.....	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen as N ₂	Nil	.....	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen as N ₂	0.21	.....	0.54
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours at 27°C	1.04	.....	0.76
Free Acidity as CO ₂	less than 5	.....	less than 5
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	24	.....	18
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	44	.....	36
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	20	.....	18
Excess Alkalinity as Na ₂ CO ₃	Nil	.....	Nil
Calcium as CaCO ₃	38	.....	24
Magnesium as CaCO ₃	6	.....	12
Total Solids dried at 180°C.....	83	.....	65
Chloride as Cl	15	.....	16
Sulphate as SO ₄	24	.....	14
Lead as Pb	less than 0.05	.....	less than 0.05
Manganese as Mn	negligible	.....	Nil
Copper as Cu	Nil	.....	Nil
Iron as Fe	0.08	.....	0.30
Aluminium as Al	0.15	.....	—
Fluoride as F.....	less than 0.1	.....	less than 0.1

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

PRESTON AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

31 samples were taken by the Board, all of which proved satisfactory. 10 samples were also taken by the Department and with one exception all proved satisfactory.

FYLDE WATER BOARD

75 bacteriological samples were taken by the Fylde Water Board. Of these 70 were satisfactory.

The Fylde Water Board Broughton borehole scheme emphasises the progressive attitude of the Board. This successful scheme augments the existing upland supplies by pumping water from underground in dry periods in order to conserve the water in the stocks reservoir. Twenty boreholes have been sunk. The most prolific site and the one yielding the softest water is situated approximately one mile east of the confluence of Barton Brook and the River Brock. Experimental work carried out by the Board on the pre treatment of hard waters has resulted in the installation at Broughton of a water softening plant which incorporates an improved and very economical method of softening the water from the boreholes. This supply is blended with the water from the upland reservoirs. The degree of softening depends on the amounts being blended to give constant total hardness of 75 p.p.m. CaCO_3 .

NEW HOUSING

The following table shows the number and situation of new houses which were erected and gives a comparison with the previous year:

Parish	1967			1966		
	Private enterprise	Council	Total	Private enterprise	Council	Total
Barton	23	—	23	13	—	13
Broughton	2	—	2	2	—	2
Cuerdale	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton	—	—	—	—	—	—
Farington	7	—	7	20	4	24
Goosnargh	2	—	2	3	—	3
Grimsargh	22	—	22	11	—	11
Haighton	1	—	1	—	—	—
Hothersall	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hutton	38	—	38	36	—	36
Lea	27	—	27	23	—	23
Little Hoole	16	—	16	11	—	11
Longton	194	—	194	139	—	139
Much Hoole	47	—	47	40	—	40
Penwortham	34	—	34	35	46	81
Ribchester	6	—	6	18	—	18
Samlesbury	19	—	19	3	—	3
Whittingham	6	—	6	6	—	6
Woodplumpton...	11	—	11	11	—	11
Totals	455	—	455	371	50	421

The number of inhabited houses now stands at 16,129, and the following table analyses this total by age:

Not more than 10 years old	4,499
Between 10 and 20 years old	2,442
Between 20 and 30 years old	1,455
Between 30 and 40 years old	3,508
Between 40 and 50 years old	1,713
Over 50 years old	2,512

HOUSING PROGRESS — 1945 to 1967

Thee following Tables show (1) schemes completed, (2) schemes in progress, and (3) schemes which are intended to start in 1968.

(1)	Scheme	No. of dwellings
	Penwortham and Farington	22
	Woodplumpton	16
	Lea	40
	Woodville Street, Farington	12
	School Street, Farington	10
	Penwortham	52
	Barton	40
	Samlesbury	16
	Grimsargh	22
	Woodplumpton	8
	Little Hoole	24
	Much Hoole	24
	Goosnargh	28
	Longton	29
	Ribchester	22
	Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—1st Contract	80
	New Longton	36
	Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—2nd Contract	38
	Coote Lane, Farington—1st Contract	18
	Airey Rural Houses	84
	Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—3rd Contract	36
	Nabs Head Lane, Samlesbury	30
	Stanifield Lane, Farington	28
	Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—1st Contract	50
	Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—2nd Contract	50
	Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—4th Contract	80
	Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—3rd Contract	54
	Coote Lane, Farington—2nd Contract	106
	Studholme Estate, Penwortham—1st Contract	76
	Studholme Estate, Penwortham—2nd Contract	58
	Shops and Flats, Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham	6
	Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—4th Contract	54
	Studholme Estate, Penwortham—3rd Contract	29
	Woodplumpton	10
	Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—5th Contract	54
	Kingsfold Estate, Penwortham—6th Contract	76
	Barton—Special Unit for Aged Persons	31
	Studholme Estate, Penwortham—4th Contract	22
	Sycamore Farm, Penwortham—5th Contract	24
	Agricultural Dwellings, Newgate Lane, Farington	4
	Total	<hr/> 1,499 <hr/>

(2)	No. of dwellings
Longton—Special Unit for Aged Persons	27
Bungalows and Flats	15

OVERSPILL

Altogether, 312 houses and flats have been erected in the Kingsfold Development Area in the parish of Penwortham and occupied by overspill population from the Preston C.B.

OTHER HOUSING

In addition to Council houses, houses have been constructed by the Lancashire County Council, Ministry of Works, Kingsway Housing Association (formed by The English Electric Co.), Manchester Regional Hospital Board, and Private Builders.

As far as other housing is concerned, the position at the 31st December, 1967, was as follows:

		Dwellings Under Completed Construction	Not yet Started
Lancashire County Council	137	—	—
Ministry of Works	208	—	—
Kingsway Housing Association	250	—	—
Blackburn C.B.	6	—	—
Preston C.B.	1	—	—
Manchester Regional Hospitals Board	15	—	—
Private Builders.....	4893	258	305
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	5510	258	305
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Sewage Disposal

There are outfall works in five townships, viz.: Barton, Farington, Longton, Penwortham and Ribchester. In addition, Grimsargh and areas of Lea and Samlesbury are sewered to outfalls outside the district.

The several comprehensive schemes of sewerage recently completed have greatly improved the sewage situation in the Rural Area, and the following table indicates the present position in the various parishes.

The total population figure of 3,896 for the parish of Whittingham includes some 2,162 patients and resident staff of the Whittingham Hospital, which has its own sewage treatment works. Accordingly, the total population figure given in the right-hand column of the table would be more accurately quoted at 7,605.

Parish	Connected to Public Sewer		Septic Tank, etc.	
	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling houses	No. of Population
Barton ...	557	1621	66	205
Broughton ...	81	237	104	310
Cuerdale ...	...	...	10	45
Dutton ...	...	...	66	207
Farington ...	1430	4086	122	356
Goosnargh ...	44	159	278	957
Grimsargh ...	282	841	38	122
Haighton ...	...	...	68	240
Hothersall ...	...	...	41	159
Hutton ...	728	2131	120	336
Lea ...	953	2878	277	824
Little Hoole ...	294	767	42	130
Longton ...	2284	6304	44	128
Much Hoole ...	384	1060	53	149
Penwortham ...	5685	16580	12	34
Ribchester ...	359	994	146	433
Samlesbury ...	150	436	251	742
Whittingham ...	328	1042	225	2854
Woodplumpton ...	100	317	507	1536
TOTAL				
Whole District ...	13659	39453	2470	9767

The main districts which still require public sewerage facilities are the Darkinson Lane and the Hoyles Lane areas of Lea, and Woodplumpton Village.

During the year the Council approved an outline scheme for extensions to the Longton and District Sewerage Scheme which also included extensions to the sewer in Gill Lane, Long Moss Lane and Skip Lane.

At the end of the year a start was imminent on the Farington Sewerage Scheme. This scheme provides for the closure of the obsolete Farington works and the conveyance of the sewage from Farington Parish to the new sewage works of Leyland Urban District Council. In addition, public sewerage facilities will be provided for the first time to 88 properties lying between the Farington works and the boundary with Leyland Urban District Council.

Factories Act, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1967, for the Rural District of Preston in the County of Lancaster

Most of the factories in the Rural Area are of a small character. There are, however, four Cotton Mills at Farington and Ribchester and two small Iron Foundries at Whittingham. In addition, and in recent times, two large modern and well-equipped factories have been erected at Farington, occupied by Leyland Motors Ltd. and the B.T.R. Industries Ltd.

Prescribed Particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961 Part I of the Act

1—INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	...	...	...	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	112	64	...	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	24	16	...	...
TOTAL ...	136	80	...	...

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	...	...	...
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	1	1	...	...	...

Part VIII—Sections 133 and 134.

Number of Outworkers in August List required by Section 133 (1) (c), 6 Wearing Apparel (making, etc.).

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

To: The Chairman and Members of the Preston Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1967.

In the sections which follow, I give an outline of the wide range of environmental health work dealt with by the Department.

The desire of Parliament to satisfy the demands of various sectors of the public that certain services should be provided and carried out in a particular way has, during the last few years, resulted in a spate of new legislation requiring operation by the Council through its officers.

Parts of this legislation is concerned with comparatively new services such as the licensing of Boarding Establishments for dogs and cats. Other parts are connected with old services which have changed. In this category must come the diversity and growth of trading from mobile shops, plus an increasing desire from the general public for greater protection of food from contamination. In other instances, new legislation is concerned with improving working conditions in offices and shops, although changing conditions, including the increasing use of machinery in offices, large hotels and certain food shops, helped to bring in a measure of control which was overdue.

FOOD HYGIENE

The very substantial increase in the consumption of poultry and the development of the Broiler industry has resulted in pressure for the establishment of a system of inspection of poultry at the packing stations. The time is ripe for the allocation of more time to poultry inspection, but some progress has already been made in this field insofar as during the past year a definite system of inspection was set up in four of the packing stations. In co-operation with the management concerned, a designated person on the staff of the establishment operates as a screen to put aside poultry which, on account of their abnormal appearance, require examination by your Inspector and a decision as to their fitness or otherwise for human food.

Nevertheless, the control of poultry destined for human food is minimal when compared with the rigid criteria bound up with meat inspection at a slaughterhouse. Although not a single case of food poisoning attributed to meat products has occurred in the district during the past ten years, and no doubt many other authorities are in a similar position, there is a well defined trend for greater control over slaughtering and slaughterhouses by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Against this background the Department has investigated a number of cases of Salmonella infection among farm workers and their families. Infection from farm animals is a potential hazard and an early approach to the Public Health Department is advantageous in instances where there is a risk to members of the farm household.

In the case of the outbreak of food poisoning from poultry infected with *Salmonella virchow* which is referred to by Dr. Walker on page , we came up against the problem of how far the investigation should be pursued. Our enquiries revealed an ever widening circle of possible sources of the infection. Commencing with the patients, the chain of enquiries passed through a single barbecue thence through three packing stations. At this stage when the infection was followed beyond the packing station, we were faced with approximately 30 farms supplying a single packing station and also a variety of feeding stuffs as a further possible source of infection at each farm.

In two previous investigations of food poisoning involving poultry, we had continued our investigations by taking cloacal swabs from poultry at the farm, but apart from the magnitude of this task it was found in this case that the farms visited worked on the usual broiler cycle system and, as a result, had sent the whole of their stock to the packing station prior to restocking with chickens. The outbreak enabled the Department to stress two important aspects of poultry hygiene:—

- (a) The need for strict hygienic practices by the staff of the establishment in order to ensure, as far as is practicable, that if infection is brought into the barbecue in poultry from the packing station, the infection is not transferred to the cooked bird
- (b) The need to have regard continuously at the packing station to the production of a satisfactory end product and in this field the wholehearted co-operation of the management with the Public Health Inspector is vital.

The food Hygiene (Market Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations came into force in 1967. These Regulations have materially helped to bring retail trading from vehicles much nearer to the hygiene standards applicable to shops.

One of the side effects of this legislation is the very substantial increase in pre-wrapping at the depot or store, an arrangement which in some instances permits partial exemption from the Regulations.

Public Health Inspectors are occasionally requested to inspect food in retail shops in instances where there is some doubt about its fitness for human consumption. Usually there is little more to this work other than judgment on the particular item of food. However, over the latter half of the year Mr. Kirkham, one of the District Inspectors, had found it necessary to condemn a number of 7lb. tins of Polish cooked ham. Examination of the contents revealed that the discoloration and contamination had always started at a small strip of metal immediately below the vent hole. Presumably, the strip protects the ham during the sealing operation. It was also noted that, although the cans were well protected internally with a lacquer lining, this small strip was not lacquered and, consequently, the resultant corrosion had stained the ham and made it unmarketable. A letter to the wholesalers, drawing their attention to our view that contamination was attributable to the absence of a protective lacquer on this strip, was forwarded to the Importer. Apparently, it was sent on to the manufacturer in turn and eventually we got a reply from the canning firm in Warsaw, Poland. They agreed with our findings and indicated that they were taking steps to prevent a recurrence of this trouble. It is unusual to have correspondence direct with a manufacturer in a foreign country, but perhaps entry into the European Common Market will result in much closer contact with food manufacturers in Europe.

HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

The improvement and repair of the older type of house continues to be an important part of the work of the Department.

During the past year grants amounting to £6,156 have been paid to house owners in respect of improvements.

A Housing Survey is being undertaken in part of Farington with a view to a report being presented to the Housing Committee for their consideration as to whether the area should be declared an Improvement Area under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The high cost of sewerage work is reflected in the contract tender of £918,000 which has been accepted by the Council for the Penwortham Scheme. Included in this work is the closure of the existing grossly overloaded Penwortham Works and the diversion of the whole of the sewage to the Freckleton Works of Preston County Borough on the opposite side of the Ribble estuary.

The new 27" "diversion sewer" will pass through a 6' 0" diameter tunnel cut into the rock below the river bed.

The scheme was prepared by Messrs. Charles J. Lomax & Son of Manchester and received approval from the Minister of Housing and Local Government following a Technical Inquiry at the Council Offices.

At the Inquiry, I was able to stress the urgency of the work on Public Health grounds and in particular the need to prevent sewage overflowing from manholes in the streets and, in some instances, into houses during periods of heavy rain.

An important part of the sewerage improvements to be carried out within the Parish of Penwortham is a new intercepting sewer which, in addition to preventing flooding, will bring in a considerable amount of additional land for housing development.

At the appropriate time I intend to ask the Committee to consider designating the area of land to be brought into use for development as a Smoke Control Area. This would, I feel, be advantageous to both the Council and to the occupiers of the new houses.

RIECHESTER FLOODING

Flooding occasionally occurs in the village of Ribchester as a result of the overflowing of Boyces Brook and also tributary stream which is culverted through the village.

A scheme to remedy flooding from this source at a cost of £12,480 was explained to the Committee but due to the general economic position and a government request to local authorities to defer such works, consideration was postponed by the Council for a period of twelve months.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEMS OF INTENSIVE FARMING

During the past year, many complaints have been received regarding alleged nuisances associated with intensive farming. They include complaints in respect of smell nuisances from—

- (a) A manure drying plant
- (b) A mink farm
- (c) Broiler cabins

and several in respect of the spreading of liquid manure on farm land.

Other complaints have been received regarding noise from broiler cabin ventilating fans and flies from a mushroom growing establishment. Some of these problems were unresolved at the end of the year.

PEST CONTROL

An interesting incident occurred during a routine visit of one of the District Public Health Inspectors to a poultry processing plant. An inspection of the stock in the deep freeze refrigerator was being carried out when it was noticed that several carcasses in one or two boxes appeared to have torn flesh about the breast and neck. A more detailed inspection of these showed that the areas in question had, in fact, been gnawed by rodents and further evidence to support this was the presence of mouse faeces on the carcasses and in the case containing the frozen poultry.

An inspection of further cases revealed that this pattern repeated itself. The owner was informed immediately and advised that this stock must not be released for human consumption. It was agreed that disposal and processing for animal feeding would be in order.

The Inspector examined each case as it was withdrawn from the store. It was found that all cases of poultry showed evidence of mouse infestation to a greater or lesser degree, i.e. gnawing of carcasses and presence of faecal matter on the carcasses. In all, some 200 cases of poultry amounting to 3,600 carcasses, weighing 9,000 lbs. and valued at £1,200 were rejected as unfit and were dispatched to a Pig Farmer as animal feedingstuffs.

Internally, the structure of the unit is sound and free from defect. One small hole adjoining the electrical cable appears unrelated to the problem. It is very probable that one or two pairs of mice had gained access to the refrigerator through the open door, possibly in a box or wooden case of poultry.

The normal running temperature of this freezer unit is 21°F. and it would not normally be expected to find rodent infestation under these circumstances.

During the operation two mouse nests were located and 15 mice killed.

SHELTERED HOUSING FOR THE AGED

The Wardens at the two groups of aged persons bungalows — Mrs. Bramley at Penwortham and Mrs. Lloyd at Broughton — continued to provide a very worthwhile service to the residents. The construction of a third group at New Longton is planned for 1968. Similar facilities will be available including a community centre and a call bell system for emergency use by the tenants.

As mentioned by Dr. Walker, Mr. Saunders left the Department towards the end of the year. I am pleased to endorse his comments and to add that the new arrangement whereby the bulk of the administrative work is carried out by Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Lomax is in all respects working satisfactorily.

In co-operation with the Lancashire County Council assistance was again given in training overseas university students in Local Government work.

In conclusion, I would like to express to members of the Council and, in particular, to the Public Health Committee my thanks for their interest in the work of the Department and for their continued support and encouragement. My thanks are also due to the District Public Health Inspectors for their wholehearted co-operation at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. BAXTER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

Inspection of dwelling-houses	106
Drainage of Premises	447
Ditches and Watercourses	89
Rent Act	4
Infectious disease	421
Verminous premises and persons	2
Waste Foods Order	8
Milk and Dairies	297
Food premises	277
Shops	165
Factories	80
Caravans	102
Schools	6
Hotels, Inns, etc.	10
Ice-cream premises	24
Hawkers	25
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	62
Housing Acts—Discretionary and Standard Grants	773
Clean Air Act	43
Closet conversions	112
Poultry Packing Stations	250
Petroleum Act	109
Water Supply	95
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	204
Knacker's Yard	12
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	204
Housing Welfare	82
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	23
Noise Abatement Act	32
Houses in multi-occupation	4
Scrap Metal Dealers Act	3
Other Visits	378
	4,449

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	34
Formal	2

SANITARY DEFECTS DEALT WITH

Dampness	21
Defective Ceilings	2
Defective Closet Pails	1
Defective Closet Structures	2
Defective Doors	2
Defective Floors	2
Defective Gutters	9
Defective Paving	2
Defective Downspouts	4
Defective Roofs	3
Defective Chimneys	3
Defective Pointing	6
Defective Walls	5
Defective Brickwork	3
Defective W.C.s	2
Defective Windows	7
Defective Woodwork	3
Defective Fire Ranges	1
Defective Sink Waste Pipes	2
Defective Sinks	1
Insanitary Drainage	162
Ditches and Watercourses	17

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Altogether 536 visits were made in connection with complaints of unsatisfactory drainage, including fouled ditches and watercourses and also for the purpose of drain testing. 448 new dwellings were connected to the public sewers in the various parishes during 1967, making 13,723 inhabited houses so connected out of a total in the Rural District of 16,129.

At the end of the year the position as regards sanitary conveniences belonging to inhabited houses was as follows:

No. of fresh water closets	15,743
No. of waste water closets	53
No. of pail closets	333

The pail closets mainly exist in the outlying parishes and the waste water closets in the older type terraced houses in the parish of Farington. The following conversions took place during 1967:

No. of pail closets to fresh water closets	10
No. of waste water closets to fresh water closets	29

Notices were served on four owners to convert pails to W.C.s. Such notices can only be served where there is a public water supply and sewer available and the Council must pay half the cost of the conversion. In view of these circumstances, the Committee reconsidered the position of owners who voluntarily convert pails or waste water closets to W.C.s and amended the grant scheme from a maximum of £20 to half the actual cost subject to the cost being approved by the Committee as reasonable. It is unlikely that the average increase in grant will be more than £5 per conversion.

A contract was arranged between a Farington plumber and 18 owners of property in South Farington for the conversion of waste water closets to modern W.C.s at a cost of £45 per house.

Following my report to the Committee on the difficulties experienced by householders in obtaining contractors to give prompt attention to blocked drains, the Council decided to establish a drain rodding service for private householders on a fixed charge basis of 10s. 0d. per drain clearance. The service which is confined to drainage systems in which inspection chambers have been provided has been very well received by the public and 107 drains were cleared during 1967.

The Department operates an eleven-hundred gallon cesspool emptier vehicle for the purpose of providing a free septic tank desludging service to houses in unsewered areas, and every effort is made to desludge the tanks at intervals of not more than six months. As a result, however, of new housing development outstripping the capacity of the sludge drying facilities of the Council's Sewage Works, it has been necessary, on numerous occasions, to cart liquid sludge from the settlement tanks to the Council's refuse tips where it is deposited into temporary sludge drying beds. A service is also extended, as far as circumstances permit, to the Lancashire County Council in connection with public buildings on a rechargeable work basis. The income derived from this source amounted to £325 12s. 0d.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

389 visits have been made by the District Public Health Inspectors in connection with the investigation of infectious disease during 1967. They were related principally to outbreaks of sonne dysentery, gastro enteritis and other ill-defined sickness and diarrhoea occurring amongst school children.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

313 shops are on the Council's register and, in accordance with the delegated scheme of duties, 152 inspections were made and reports prepared and submitted to the Lancashire County Council. Infringements of the Act related mainly to the absence of necessary records where young persons were employed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

191 premises have now been registered. 204 visits of all kinds were made by the Public Health Inspectors to see that the requirements of the Act are being fully implemented.

Particulars of Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises newly registered during the year	Total Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year
Offices	3	34	6
Retail shops	2	118	16
Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	2	...
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	5	36	6
Fuel storage depots ...	...	1	...
TOTALS ...	10	191	28

Analysis by Workplace of Persons Employed in Registered Premises at end of Year

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	102
Retail shops	355
Wholesale departments, warehouses	13
Catering establishments open to the public ...	285
Canteens ... ..	...
Fuel storage depots	1
Total	756
Total Males	301
Total Females	455

One accident was investigated and this was not of a serious nature.
There were no exemptions or prosecutions.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1964

1. No. of dwellinghouses dealt with formally	137	
2. No. of dwellinghouses dealt with informally	35	
	<hr/>	172
3. No. of dwellinghouses where action is temporarily deferred for special reasons	29	
	<hr/>	29
		<hr/>
		201
		<hr/>

RENT ACT, 1957

First Schedule

Part I — Application for Certificates of Disrepair

1. Number of applications for certificates	2
2. Number of decisions not to issue certificates	0
3. Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the first schedule	0
4. Number of certificates issued	2

SLUM CLEARANCE

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Housing Acts, 1936 to 1964.

The following table shows action taken in the various Parishes in the Rural District with regard to slum clearance from 1945 to 1967 inclusive:

PARISH	HOUSES						
	Demolished or closed		Undertakings accepted following formal action		Voluntary action by owners		Scheduled for demolition
	<i>Formally</i>	<i>Informally</i>	<i>Not to be used for human habitation</i>	<i>Re-construction</i>	<i>Re-construction or conversion to other use</i>	<i>Not to be used for human habitation</i>	
Barton ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Broughton	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cuerdale ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dutton ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Farington	29	3	1	1	...	...	1
Goosnargh	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Grimsargh ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Haighton	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hothersall ... ..	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Hutton	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lea	9	2	1	1	...	...	...
Little Hoole	1	2	...	1	...	...	...
Longton	36	9	4	6	...	...	...
Much Hoole	4	...	...	3	...	1	...
Penwortham	47	12	3	3	2	...	1
Ribchester	10	...	7	2	...	...	2
Samlesbury	9	4	...	1	...	...	1
Whittingham... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Woodplumpton	21	6	5	3	...	...	...
TOTALS	174	37	24	24	2	1	5

UNFIT HOUSES

The statistics shown below relate only to the year under review.

Houses demolished

1. In clearance area	Nil
2. Not in clearance areas	1
3. No. of displaced persons re-housed	Nil

Unfit houses closed

1. Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) & 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	1
2. No. of displaced persons re-housed	Nil

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied

1. After informal action by local authority	10
2. After formal notice under —	
(a) Public Health Acts	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	1

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary Grants

Number of schemes submitted —

1. By local authority to Ministry	Nil
2. By private individuals to the local authority	14
(a) No. of schemes completed during the year	5
(b) Additional separate dwellings included in the completed schemes	Nil

Standard Grants

Number of schemes submitted to local authority for improvements to —

(a) Full standard	47
(b) Reduced standard	Nil

Number of schemes approved by local authority for improvements to —

(a) Full standard	47
(b) Reduced standard	Nil

Number of schemes completed	40
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PETROLEUM ACTS

No. of new licences granted for storing petrol during the year — 1.

No. of renewal licences granted during the year — 114.

109 visits have been made in connection with the installation and testing of new storage tanks and the renewal of licences.

Approval was given for unattended coin-operated petrol pumps at garages at Grimsargh, Penwortham and Lea subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) Two of the fire extinguishers required to be provided by the General Conditions shall be kept in a position approved by the Chief Public Health Inspector.
- (b) An isolator switch capable of cutting off the electricity supply to all pumps and pump lighting but excluding the light above the fire extinguisher shall be provided on the forecourt at a position approved by the Chief Inspector. The switch shall be prominently labelled "Fire Switch".
- (c) Coin-operated pumps shall be fitted with safety nozzles incorporating a device to prevent the opening of the valve unless the spout is in a container. The design shall also incorporate a device to prevent the overfilling of any fuel tank or container.
- (d) The coin-operated pump shall bear on each serving side in conspicuous lettering the words "No Smoking" "Stop Engine".
- (e) There shall be displayed near the pumps a prominent notice giving directions to the nearest telephone preceded by the words "In case of fire call Fire Brigade".
- (f) Notices and explanatory wording shall be maintained in a clear and legible state and shall be free from advertising or other extraneous matter.
- (g) Between sunset and sunrise the following shall be kept effectively illuminated:—
 - (i) Each coin-operated pump and its immediate surrounding.
 - (ii) The fire switch.
 - (iii) The two fire extinguishers.
 - (iv) All relevant notices and operating instructions.

CARAVANS

The enforcement of the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, in connection with the unauthorised stationing of caravans on sites within the Rural District entailed the making of 102 visits by the Public Health Inspectors, compared with 121 last year. The parishes principally affected were Barton, Longton and Much Hoole.

The Penwortham Caravan Site is licensed for 78 residential caravans. The site licence conditions require that each caravan on the site must be fitted with a bathroom and W.C. A public water supply and drainage connection is available on each caravan standing. Six new site licences were issued for individual vans and altogether 15 licences remain in force in respect of 109 'vans.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

The Scrap Metal Dealers' Act, 1964 requires every local authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on business in their area as scrap metal dealers and registration is by right and not at the discretion of the local authority. The main purpose of the Act is to ensure that accurate records of all purchases and sales are kept by any person dealing in scrap metals. Eleven dealers have so far been registered.

CLEAN AIR

The Central Electricity Generating Board have now decided to make provision for a nuclear-powered station to be built at Hoole as part of their programme for the 1970s.

9 Installations were considered and approved under the provisions of Sections 3 and 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956. In three instances informal discussion with the applicants prior to consideration by the Committee resulted in either increased chimney heights or the provision of an induced draught fan to improve the efflux velocity of the chimney outlet.

Complaints continued regarding grit and fume emissions from the Cupola at the Leyland Motors Farington Foundry and of sulphur dioxide from the 160,000,000 B.Th.U. oil-fired boilers at the Spurrier Works resulted in several visits and discussions with the Management. Some improvements were obtained but only very costly new plant will remedy the situation.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

There are 12 licensed establishments in the area catering for 182 dogs and 96 cats. Though minor improvement works were carried out in one or two instances, the general condition of the boarding establishments is satisfactory.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints of excessive noise dealt with by the Department included barking dogs and noise originating from the activities of inconsiderate neighbours, workshops, the use of air compressors and noise from ventilating fans. The complaints were generally resolved after discussion and the tendering of advice.

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The Rural District Council carries out, on behalf of the Lancashire County Council, delegated duties under this Order and regular inspections are made of the five licensed premises — a reduction of four on the previous year — particular attention being paid to storage arrangements and the plant used for boiling operations. In one instance action was taken to stop the unauthorised use of new but inadequate plant.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk supply—action taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

At the 31st December, 1967, there were 75 registered milk distributors in the area operating from:

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) dairies in the district | 38 |
| (b) shops in the district other than dairies | 37 |

Milk Sampling

(a) Samples taken for Biological Examination

		Results			
Nature of test		Positive		Negative	No result
(i)	Tuberculosis	Nil	....	37	Nil
(ii)	Brucellosis Ring Test	106	....	1,040	103
	Culture Test	10	....	60	Nil
	Biological Test	4	....	36	Nil

Altogether 1,263 samples were taken, of which 1,049 were individual cow samples.

(b) Samples taken for Statutory Tests

Nature of test		No. of samples		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory		Void samples
Raw Milk:								
(i)	Methylene Blue	13	....	12	....	1	....	Nil
Heat-treated Milk:								
(i)	Methylene Blue	1	....	1	....	Nil	....	Nil
(ii)	Phosphatase	1	....	1	....	Nil	....	Nil
(iii)	Turbidity .....	—	....	—	....	—	....	—

(c) Milk sampling to detect Brucella Infection

In order to assist producer retailers in identifying infected animals, individual cow samples are taken in instances where the farmer agrees to send such animals for slaughter.

14 positive herd samples were noted and action taken to clear the infection. In only 4 cases was it necessary to serve a Pasteurisation Notice under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

3 human cases of brucellosis were brought to the attention of the Department during the year under review as against 5 in 1966.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

Some progress was made in reducing the number of houses on private supplies. A further nine houses, including seven at Dutton, were on private supplies. Two of the main difficulties encountered in the elimination of unsatisfactory private supplies are:—

- (a) The bacteriologically unsatisfactory supply to premises which, due to their distance from the nearest main, cannot be provided with a public supply. Often these are time consuming investigations with no satisfactory answer within the financial means of the owner, and
- (b) The unsatisfactory private supply to premises which can be connected up at a cost varying between £200 and £500 where the owners will not meet the cost of this work.

The legislation contained in the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended by the Water Act, 1945, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1961, authorises the Council to serve notices on owners to connect their property to the public supply but if a notice is served, the Council must pay the cost of the work in excess of £60, e.g. if the cost of the work is £260, the Council would be bound to pay £200 of this amount.

The terms of the financial guarantee to Preston & District Water Board in respect of the Board's extension of the mains in Dutton resulted in the Council paying the Board a sum of £453 11s. 0d. for the financial year 1967-68, a figure which is far greater than the total rates received by the Rural District Council in respect of all the properties served by the new water main.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1958

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1954-58

The Council provided a meat inspection service throughout the year at a slaughterhouse attached to Whittingham Hospital and at a private slaughterhouse in the parish of Farington. Twenty slaughtermen have been licensed to carry out their trade. There is a licensed Knacker's Yard which also serves a large area outside the district. The following 3,222 animals were dealt with during 1967:

Donkeys	3	Sheep	759
Goats	4	Pigs	660
Horses	38	Cattle	1,758

A substantial number of the above were brought in dead. In one instance a dead cow which had been brought in on a Friday evening had been skinned and the hide placed with several others awaiting collection. The following day it was suspected, and later confirmed, that the animal had died from Anthrax and the emergency drill to deal with these circumstances was put into operation.

An unfortunate side-effect for the owner of the Knacker's Yard was the destruction of hides valued at £150. This was a necessary precaution due to the possibility of contamination of other hides.

The following figures illustrate the considerable increase in the volume of work undertaken by the Council's Meat Inspectors in recent years:

Year	Number of Animals Killed
1963	1,250
1964	1,268
1965	936
1966	1,757
1967	2,003

The total weight of meat condemned at the slaughterhouses was approximately 25½ cwt.

In addition, inspection of food was requested at a number of food shops and stores and a variety of foods were condemned amounting to 370 lbs.

FOOD PREMISES

240 visits have been made to food premises (including manufacturing premises, canteens, restaurants and hotel kitchens) and four informal notices served in connection with contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

162 premises are now registered for the storage and sale of loose or pre-packed ice-cream manufactured outside the district and one where ice-cream is manufactured and sold.

61 persons now operate as hawkers in the Rural District and have been registered for the purpose. 23 premises have also been registered for the storage of foodstuffs.

Seven ice-cream samples were taken. Six were satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. The latter resulted in a check on the sterilising technique at the manufacturing plant and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

The number of carcasses of animals inspected at the slaughterhouse was:

Cattle (excluding cows)	336
Cows	82
Calves	Nil
Pigs	45
Sheep and Lambs	1,540

and the following meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption:

- 187 sheep livers for parasites.
- 91 beasts' livers for distomatosis.
- 19 beasts' livers for cirrhosis.
- 22 beasts' livers for abcess.
- 12 beasts' lungs for pneumonia.
- 5 beasts' spleens for peritonitis.
- 3 beasts' lungs for pleurisy.
- 1 beast's head and tongue for cysticercosis bovis.
- 1 beast's heart for cysticercosis bovis.
- 2 beasts' kidneys and 1 hind quarter beef for necrosis.
- 3 beasts' kidneys for cysts.
- 1 beast's stomach for abcess.

PARKS AND PLAYING FIELDS

The following schedule gives particulars of the Playing Fields provided in the Rural District and an indication of the area in each field available for games:

Situation	Whole area		Area for games		Area let off for		
					Grazing	Ploughing	
Barton	5	....	5	....	—	....	—
Broughton	5	....	5	....	—	....	—
Church Wood, Penwortham	4½	....	4½	....	—	....	—
Farington	10	....	5½	....	4½	....	—
Goosnargh	4½	....	4½	....	—	....	—
Grimsargh	12	....	12	....	—	....	—
Hurst Grange, Penwortham	16½	....	12	....	4½	....	—
Hutton	7	....	7	....	—	....	—
Lea	16½	....	4	....	12½	....	—
Little Hoole	4	....	4	....	—	....	—
Longton	6	....	6	....	—	....	—
Much Hoole	5	....	5	....	—	....	—
New Longton	9	....	9	....	—	....	—
Queensway, Penwortham	5	....	5	....	—	....	—
Penwortham Hall	18½	....	12½	....	6	....	—
Tardy Gate	5½	....	5½	....	—	....	—
Woodplumpton	6½	....	2½	....	4	....	—
Total	140½	....	109	....	31½	....	—

PEST CONTROL

Cats, rats, mice, moles, crickets, cockroaches, wasps, caterpillars, bugs, fleas, and flies were all included in the wide variety of animals and insect life which the Pest Control Section were required to eliminate or control.

MOLE CONTROL

This service continued to expand. The operators are trained in the use of strychnine poison and experience has shown it to be an effective method of control. Two operators working together are employed on this work, and a charge of one guinea is made for the time actually spent on the site. This amount is an all-in charge, inclusive of travelling time, transport costs and material.

RODENT CONTROL CONTRACT SERVICE

The changing pattern of agriculture, with its tendency to larger units, has resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of the pig and poultry type of smallholding; consequently, some reduction in the demand for the services in this particular sector was noted. Nevertheless, the contract service still provides the main work for the Pest Control Section, and produced an income of approximately £755 in the year under review. Details of the action taken in respect of business, agriculture and domestic premises are:

1. Total number of dwelling houses in the district	=	16,191
2. Total number of agricultural premises	=	1,010
3. Total number of business premises	=	1,022
4. Total number of visits to premises:		
(a) agricultural—(i) on contract work	=	972
(ii) on survey inspection	=	35
(b) dwelling houses	=	444
(c) business—(i) on contract work	=	131
(ii) on survey inspection	=	25
5. Total number of infestations dealt with:		
(a) by the local authority—agricultural	=	496
dwellinghouses	=	144
business	=	151
(b) by occupiers	=	Nil
6. Total number of occupiers under contract with the local authority	=	

REFUSE TIPS

124 visits were made to the refuse tips at Whittingham and Much Hoole and also former tips at Grimsargh, Longton, Samlesbury and Lea. No problems arose over rodent control on the tips, regular treatments and the frequent changing of permanent baiting points keeping infestation down to a minimum level.

SEWERS

Twice yearly sewer treatments produced much the same results as in previous years. Minor infestations were noted at Lea, Penwortham and Ribchester. Two factors are operating against the complete eradication of rats from the Council's sewers:

- (a) infestation, resulting occasionally from a combination of waste food left by building operatives, and access to the sewers via drainage work under construction in new development areas, occurred in a number of cases.
- (b) a small number of storm water overflows of unsatisfactory design which discharge direct into small streams also provide a ready access to the sewerage system for rats.

The Council's sewage works at Barton, Farington, Longton, Penwortham and Ribchester are treated periodically and infestation reduced to a minor level. Two full-time Rodent Operatives are employed. The staff is, however, interchangeable with the Septic Tank Maintenance Section. Operators in both sections are trained in each other's work with a view to ensuring the availability of the service during sickness, holidays and emergency work.

3 tons of rat poison were used during the period under review.

Infestation of hawthorn hedges and fruit trees by the caterpillar of the Ermine Moth was again widespread throughout the district, and in order to assist owners dealing with it a suitable insecticide for killing the caterpillar was made available in 1oz. containers, and approximately 435 were sold. A limited amount of work was carried out on a rechargeable basis by the operators. A three-gallon knapsack sprayer was used for this purpose.

T. BAXTER,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

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